

IV, F.1, IC/ID Implementation Program

The City of Santa Clarita has two employees inspecting and enforcing storm water illicit connections and illicit discharges, or IC/ID. These inspectors work for the City's Environmental Services Division under the Storm Water Utility. Throughout a typical day, the inspectors proactively search for illicit connections and discharges as well as respond to phone calls from residents and other City personnel, usually within an hour of being received. During enforcement activities, our IC/ID Inspectors hand out brochures to contractors or the general public as a part of continuing the education process. The inspectors utilize laptop computers during field investigations to collect all pertinent information about illicit discharges and connections and any previous violations. The databases store information on streets, addresses and the “types” of violations, if any. In addition, there is a section for any relevant notes to collect incident information in the field. The use of the laptop computers gives the inspectors the ability to find any trends with the location or the discharge and also research possible flow paths through the storm drain system.

The City's Building and Safety and Public Works inspectors complete site visits on construction projects during normal business days. These inspectors are essentially the primary inspectors of construction sites and act as the “eyes and ears” for the IC/ID inspectors dealing with construction sites. The IC/ID inspectors worked to proactively seek out construction sites lacking in BMPs or with inadequate SWPPP implementation. The IC/ID inspectors were also called out by the Building and Safety and Public Works inspectors for enforcement on construction sites that were habitually problematic or needed increased enforcement actions to bring them into compliance.

Standard enforcement steps are as follows;

- Verbal Warning: Approach the contractor or superintendent and require them to repair, install, replace, or clean affected area in a specified time frame before any rain event and complete a re-inspection to achieve compliance.
- Written Warnings: Approach the contractor or superintendent, inform them of violation. Write a “Notice to Comply” including compliance date prior to any rain event; establish a date for re-inspection.
- Stop Work Notice: If contractor fails to comply or commits a blatant violation, inspectors will write a “Stop Work” notice to the contractor. The contractor will not be able to continue to work until the violation has been resolved.
- Formal Written Violation notices, Administrative Fines of up to \$1,000 per day: Only if contractor will not comply with above.
- District Attorney Referral: For violations that are blatant or on-going, the District Attorney may be contacted for civil action and/or the Regional Board is contacted for further enforcement action.

Depending on the severity of the event or the intent of the violator, these standardized enforcement procedures may be imposed at an increased level or out of sequence. The approach the City's IC/ID inspectors have taken utilizing education as well as increased enforcement methods has made this portion of the program very successful.